

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 07832 061003Z

17

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGR-05 ACDA-05 /093 W

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P R 060857Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3229

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN PINT PINS KS

SUBJECT: PRIMIN DELIVERS PRESIDENT'S 1976 BUDGET MESSAGE

REF: SEOUL 7332

SUMMARY: PRESIDENT PAK'S ANNUAL BUDGET MESSAGE TO NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WAS LONG, UNSURPRISING, AND GENERALLY ROUTINE. HE STRESSED CURRENT ROKG LINE, UNDERSCORING (1) CALL FOR SELF-RELIANCE IN NATIONAL DEFENSE (BUT KEEPING TIES SECURE WITH US); (2) STRENGTHENING OF ECONOMY THROUGH HARD WORK; AND (3) CONTINUING FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION IN GOVERNMENT. END SUMMARY.

1. ON OCTOBER 4, PRIME MINISTER KIM CHONG PIL READ PRESIDENT'S 1976 BUDGET MESSAGE TO NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, STRESSING CURRENT ROKG LINE PROMOTING PATRIOTISM, SELF-RELIANCE, PURIFICATION OF SOCIETY; AND HARD WORK. MOST OBSERVERS SAW NO NEW GROUND BROKEN.

2. SPEECH NOTED WHILE ROKG WILL PROMOTE TRADITIONALLY FRIENDLY

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PAGE 02 SEOUL 07832 061003Z

AND COOPERATIVE RELATIONS WITH U.S. (USING MUTUAL DEFENSE TREATY

AS BASIS), "GONE WERE DAYS WHEN ROK COULD RELY INDEFINITELY ON OTHERS FOR DEFENSE." HE PROMISED TO BUILD UP SELF-DEFENSE CAPABILITY BY MODERNIZING ROKG MILITARY EQUIPMENT.

3. AS MEANS OF REDUCING CORRUPTION IN ROKG BUREAUCRACY, PRESIDENT IN SPEECH SUPPORTED LARGE PAY INCREASE FOR GOVERNMENT CIVIL SERVANTS. ON INTERNATIONAL SCENE, PAK NOTED THAT SOUTH STILL URGED NORTH TO COME TO TABLE FOR DIALOGUE AND THAT SOUTH KOREA AND JAPAN WOULD CONTINUE TO DEVELOP COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIP.

4. IN ECONOMIC PORTION OF ADDRESS, PAK CALLED FOR EMPHASIS ON PRICE STABILIZATION, IMPROVEMENT IN BALANCE OF PAYMENTS, AND REAL ECONOMIC GROWTH OF ABOUT EIGHT PERCENT IN 1976. PROVISIONS OF BUDGET BILLS REPORTED IN SEPTTEL.

5. IN FIRST REACTION TO SPEECH TONGA ILBO NOTED THIS WAS FIRST YEAR PRESIDENT HAD INSERTED INTO BUDGET MESSAGE SEPARATE REFERENCE TO ISSUE OF CORRUPTION IN GOVERNMENT. OTHER PRESS QUOTED DRP PARTY SPOKESMAN ECHOING PRESIDENT'S VERY WORDS IN ADVOCATING MORE SELF-RELIANT DEFENSE AND ECONOMY. NDP SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT ROKG BUDGET WAS TOO COSTLY, DISREGARDING PRICE RISES AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SLUMP. KIM YONG SAM (SEPTTEL) NOTED DURING HIS QUESTION PERIOD AT NATIONAL ASSEMBLY THAT OVERALL TAX BURDEN WAS ALREADY TOO HIGH FOR POPULATION AND THAT DEFENSE EXPENDITURES, AS PROPOSED, WERE EXCESSIVE.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**To:** STATE  
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